UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/814,202	03/31/2004	W. Todd Daniell	190206-1805	6025

			EXAMINER

38823   7590   03/28/2007
THOMAS, KAYDEN, HORSTEMEYER & RISLEY, LLP/
BELLSOUTH I.P. CORP
100 GALLERIA PARKWAY
SUITE 1750
ATLANTA, GA 30339

EXAMINER
TRUONG, CAM Y T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2162	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	03/28/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 10/06)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/814,202	DANIELL ET AL.
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit
	Cam Y T. Truong	2162

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS,
WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *22 January 2007*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-19* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-19* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some *   c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date *10/20/06*.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6)☐ Other: _____.

ETAILED ACTION

1.   Claims 1-19 are pending in this Office Action.

Response to Arguments

2.   Applicant's arguments filed 1/22/2007 have been fully considered but they are

not persuasive.

      a.   Applicant argued that the cited art does not teach the claimed

limitation "an email window configured to utilize the reference identifier (ID) for

launching an IM session with the contact from the email window; an image

window".

- In response, to applicant's argument, Knauerhase teaches "an email

  window configured to utilize the reference identifier (ID) for lauching an

  IM session with the contact from the email window" as a pop-window for

  receiving and monitoring e-mail messages or an instant messages.

- This pop-window does not utilize reference identifier (ID) for lauching an

  IM session with the contact. This pop-window is represented as email

  window (paragraph [0003]). Duarte teaches using user ID for lauching

  an IM session with the contact or user and using user ID to identify a

  user or contact (paragraph 0004).

- In response, to applicant's argument, Knauerhase teaches "an email

  window configured to utilize the reference identifier (ID) for lauching an

  IM session with the contact from the email window" as a pop-window for

  receiving and monitoring e-mail messages or an instant messages.

This pop-window does not utilize reference identifier (ID) for lauching an

IM session with the contact. This pop-window is represented as email

window (paragraph [0003]). Duarte teaches using user ID for lauching

an IM session with the contact or user and using user ID to identify a

user or contact (paragraph 0004).

Cooperman teaches to initiate an IM conversation, an initiating user may simply

select a user ID of a user to be contacted from the buddy list provided by the IM client

application. The IM client application then sends a request to initiate an IM session to

an IM client application remotely executing on the computer of the user having the

selected user ID. The above information shows using ID to identify the user as a

contact and using ID to lauching an IM session with the user (paragraph [0004].

The above information shows that the combination of cited art teach the limitation

"an email window configured to utilize the reference identifier (ID) for lauching an IM

session with the contact from the email window".

**b. Applicant argued that the combination of cited art does not teach
independent claims 1, 6 and 11.**

In response to applicant's argument:

As to claim 1, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, an instant messaging

(IM) address of contact of the sender" as a single user may have many different

associated communication channels through which the user can receive messages from

other users. For example, a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses and multiple

IM addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As

shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more

of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may

desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the

sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. The above

information shows that the sender has received IM addresses of the recipient. The

recipient is represented as a contact of the sender. The sender is represented as a

user. The above information shows that the sender has included a computing device to

receive an instant messaging at the sender location (page 1, col. Right, lines 8-22),

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, an email address of

the contact of the sender" as a single user may have many different associated

communication channels through which the user can receives messages from other

users. For example, a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses and multiple IM

addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As

shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more

of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may

desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the

sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. The above

information shows that the sender has received email addresses of the recipient. The

recipient is represented as a contact of the sender. The sender is represented as a

user. The sender is represented as a user. The above information shows that the

sender has included a computing device to receive email address of a contact at the

sender location (page 1, col. Right, lines 8-22),

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the IM address to

the reference identifier (ID)" as a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses and

multiple IM addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to

Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one

or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient

may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212.

Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As

indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m,

intended for a recipient and parses it to identify a recipient (specified by m.to ID). In

case, when the sender can choose multiple IM addresses of a recipient to route

messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to IM addresses. Since a message

is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, each IM address is correlated to the recipient's

ID (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56),

"the reference identifier (ID) being adapted to identify the individual contact" as

specifying m.to ID to identify the recipient. It means that the ID is used to identify the

recipient (page 3, col. Right, lines 53-56),

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the email address to

the reference identifier (ID)" as a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses, any

one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a

message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different

communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the

message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender

chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by the

pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a recipient

and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the sender

can choose multiple email addresses of a recipient to route messages to the recipient,

messages are correlated to email addresses. Since a message is correlated to the

recipient's ID; thus, each IM address is correlated to the recipient's ID (page 1, col.

right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 53-56);

"an email window configured to utilize the reference identifier (ID) for lauching an

IM session with the contact from the email window" as a pop-window for receiving and

monitoring e-mail messages or an instant messages. This pop-window does not utilize

reference identifier (ID) for lauching an IM session with the contact. This pop-window is

represented as email window (paragraph [0003]).

Knauerhase does not explicitly teach " receiving, by the computing device at the

sender location, the reference identifier (ID) being adapted to identify the contact of the

sender; providing, by the computing device at the sender location, configured to utilize

the reference identifier (ID) for lauching an IM session with the contact ".

Cooperman teaches to initiate an IM conversation, an initiating user may simply

select a user ID of a user to be contacted from the buddy list provided by the IM client

application. The IM client application then sends a request to initiate an IM session to

an IM client application remotely executing on the computer of the user having the

selected user ID. The above information shows using ID to identify the user as a

contact and using ID to lauching an IM session with the user (paragraph [0004].

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to apply Cooperman's teaching of initiating an IM

conversation, an initiating user may simply select a user ID of a user to be contacted

from the buddy list provided by the IM client application. The IM client application then

sends a request to initiate an IM session to an IM client application remotely executing

on the computer of the user having the selected user ID   to Knauerhase's system in

order to provide systems and methods that allow a user to decide whether or not to

participate in the requested IM session, and to provide secure access to the personal

information only for the selected user or contact.

As to claim 1, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, an instant messaging

(IM) address of contact of the sender" as a single user may have many different

associated communication channels through which the user can receive messages from

other users. For example, a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses and multiple

IM addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As

shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more

of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may

desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the

sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. The above

information shows that the sender has received IM addresses of the recipient. The

recipient is represented as a contact of the sender. The sender is represented as a

user. The above information shows that the sender has included a computing device to

receive an instant messaging at the sender location (page 1, col. Right, lines 8-22),

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, an email address of

the contact of the sender" as a single user may have many different associated

communication channels through which the user can receives messages from other

users. For example, a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses and multiple IM

addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As

shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more

of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may

desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the

sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. The above

information shows that the sender has received email addresses of the recipient.   The

recipient is represented as a contact of the sender. The sender is represented as a

user. The sender is represented as a user. The above information shows that the

sender has included a computing device to receive email address of a contact at the

sender location (page 1, col. Right, lines 8-22),

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the IM address to

the reference identifier (ID)" as a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses and

multiple IM addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to

Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one

or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient

may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212.

Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As

indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m,

intended for a recipient and parses it to identify a recipient (specified by m.to ID). In

case, when the sender can choose multiple IM addresses of a recipient to route

messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to IM addresses. Since a message

is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, each IM address is correlated to the recipient's

ID (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56),

"the reference identifier (ID) being adapted to identify the individual contact" as

specifying m.to ID to identify the recipient. It means that the ID is used to identify the

recipient (page 3, col. Right, lines 53-56),

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the email address to

the reference identifier (ID)" as a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses, any

one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a

message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different

communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the

message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender

chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by the

pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a recipient

and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the sender

can choose multiple email addresses of a recipient to route messages to the recipient,

messages are correlated to email addresses. Since a message is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, each IM address is correlated to the recipient's ID (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 53-56);

"an email window configured to utilize the reference identifier (ID) for lauching an IM session with the contact from the email window" as a pop-window for receiving and monitoring e-mail messages or an instant messages. This pop-window does not utilize reference identifier (ID) for lauching an IM session with the contact. This pop-window is represented as email window (paragraph [0003]).

Knauerhase does not explicitly teach " receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, the reference identifier (ID) being adapted to identify the contact of the sender; providing, by the computing device at the sender location, configured to utilize the reference identifier (ID) for lauching an IM session with the contact".

Duarte teaches using user ID for lauching an IM session with the contact or user and using user ID to identify a user or contact (paragraph 0004).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Duarte's teaching of using user ID for lauching an IM session with the contact or user and using user ID to identify a user or contact to Knauerhase's system in order to provide systems and methods that allow a user to decide whether or not to participate in the requested IM session, and to provide secure access to the personal information only for the selected user or contact.

As to claim 6, Knauerhse teaches the claimed limitations:

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, user input, the user input

comprising multiple instant messaging (IM) addresses of an individual contact" as a

single user may have many different associated communication channels through which

the user can receives messages from other users. For example, a user Rob may have

multiple e-mail addresses and multiple IM addresses, any one or more of which may be

used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210

can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different communication channels 212.

Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than

one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the

message is to be sent over. As indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure

first accepts a message, intended for a recipient. The above information shows that the

sender can choose multiple IM addresses of a recipient to route messages to the

recipient. When the sender chooses multiple IM addresses of the recipient, these

multiple IM addresses of the recipient are inputted and the routing procedure receives

the input. The recipient is represented as a contact of the sender. The sender is

represented as a user (page 1, col. Right, lines 8-22, page 3, col. Left, lines 53-54);

"the multiple IM addresses comprising IM addresses from different IM accounts"

as a single user may have many different associated communication channels through

which the user can receives messages from other users. For example, a user Rob may

have multiple e-mail addresses and multiple IM addresses, any one or more of which

may be used to route messages to Rob. In particular, a user may have accounts on two

or more different IM networks that facilitate interoperation between them e.g., a user on

IM network X can send/receive IMs to /from a user on IM network Y. Thus, user Rob's multiple IM addresses are from different IM accounts (page 1, col. Right, lines 10-15; page 3, col. Left lines 2-5),

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, each of the multiple IM addresses to the reference identifier(ID)" as a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses and multiple IM addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a recipient and parses it to identify a recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the sender can choose multiple IM addresses of a recipient to route messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to IM addresses. Since each message is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, each IM address is correlated to the recipient's ID (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56),

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, a reference identifier ID, the reference identifier (ID) being adapted to identify the individual contact" to identify the recipient specified by m.toID. It means that the ID is used to identify the recipient. The ID is not defined by the sender (page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56);

"an email window configured to utilize the reference identifier (ID) for lauching an IM session with the contact from the email window" as a pop-window for receiving and

monitoring e-mail messages or an instant messages. This pop-window does not utilize

reference identifier (ID) for lauching an IM session with the contact. This pop-window is

represented as email window (paragraph [0003]).

Knauerhase does not explicitly teach the claimed limitation "each of the different

IM accounts being adapted to transmit and receive IM messages using a different IM

protocol receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, providing, by the

computing device at the sender location, configured to utilize the reference identifier (ID)

for launching an IM session with the individual contact ".

Donovan teaches in step 100 Bill issues a command to his PC 10 to establish a

connection to the Internet 12. In response, in step 102 the PC 10 activates the DUN

component 32 that attempts to connect to the SP 14 using a standard protocol such as

PPP. In order to gain access, the DUN component 32 sends the user's ID and

password to the SP 14's authorization database 42 (step 104). The authorization

database 42 checks if Bill is a current and valid user of the SP and verifies the user ID

and password. If the user ID and password are correct and Bill's account is active, the

DUN connection is verified and Bill will have access through the SP 14 (step 106). If for

any reason Bill's status is unacceptable, access to the SP 14 and, through the SP 14, to

the IM server 30 is refused (page 3, paragraph [0038-0039]). Donovan also teaches a

system that provides instant messaging (IM) on and through the Internet across various

platforms. More particular, the system allows individuals to exchange messages and

files over the Internet substantially instantaneously across multiple and different

protocols and systems. For example, Bill has an account at Yahoo that is adapted to

receive IM message using a protocol. Ted has an account at AOL that is adapted to

receive IM message using another protocol. Bill can exchange instant messages with

Ted and Rhoda, and Ted and Rhoda can exchange messages with Bill. When Bill talks

to Ted, their messages appear in the message area. The above information shows that

user accounts being adapted to forward and receive IM messages using different

protocols (figs. 1& 5, page 1, col. left, lines 5-10; page 4, col. left, lines 18-24; page 3,

col. Right, lines 1-10).

Duarte teaches using user ID for lauching an IM session with the contact or user

and using user ID to identify a user or contact (paragraph 0004).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to apply Duarte's teaching of using user ID for lauching an IM

session with the contact or user and using user ID to identify a user or contact and

Donovan's teaching of receiving Bill's ID from Bill and providing instant messaging (IM)

on and through the Internet across various platforms, allowing individuals to exchange

messages and files over the Internet substantially instantaneously across multiple and

different protocols and exchanging instant messages using different protocols from

different user accounts to Knauerhase's system in order to provide systems and

methods that allow a user to decide whether or not to participate in the requested IM

session, and to provide secure access to the personal information only for the selected

user or contact and further to allow individuals to engage in an instant messaging

session even if the individuals are subscribers to different service providers and further

to provide instant messaging between multiple IM platforms and prevent hacker to

access user's account for updating or modifying user's data.

As to claim 6, Knauerhse teaches the claimed limitations:

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, user input, the user

input comprising multiple instant messaging (IM) addresses of an individual contact" as

a single user may have many different associated communication channels through

which the user can receives messages from other users. For example, a user Rob may

have multiple e-mail addresses and multiple IM addresses, any one or more of which

may be used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a

recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different communication

channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the message be sent

over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender chooses which of the

channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing

procedure first accepts a message, intended for a recipient. The above information

shows that the sender can choose multiple IM addresses of a recipient to route

messages to the recipient. When the sender chooses multiple IM addresses of the

recipient, these multiple IM addresses of the recipient are inputted and the routing

procedure receives the input. The recipient is represented as a contact of the sender.

The sender is represented as a user (page 1, col. Right, lines 8-22, page 3, col. Left,

lines 53-54),

recipient. The ID is not defined by the sender (page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56).

"an email window configured to utilize the reference identifier (ID) for lauching an IM session with the contact from the email window" as a pop-window for receiving and monitoring e-mail messages or an instant messages. This pop-window does not utilize reference identifier (ID) for lauching an IM session with the contact. This pop-window is represented as email window (paragraph [0003]).

Knauerhase does not explicitly teach the claimed limitation "each of the different IM accounts being adapted to transmit and receive IM messages using a different IM protocol receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, providing, by the computing device at the sender location, configured to utilize the reference identifier (ID) for launching an IM session with the individual contact".

Donovan teaches in step 100 Bill issues a command to his PC 10 to establish a connection to the Internet 12. In response, in step 102 the PC 10 activates the DUN component 32 that attempts to connect to the SP 14 using a standard protocol such as PPP. In order to gain access, the DUN component 32 sends the user's ID and password to the SP 14's authorization database 42 (step 104). The authorization database 42 checks if Bill is a current and valid user of the SP and verifies the user ID and password. If the user ID and password are correct and Bill's account is active, the DUN connection is verified and Bill will have access through the SP 14 (step 106). If for any reason Bill's status is unacceptable, access to the SP 14 and, through the SP 14, to the IM server 30 is refused (page 3, paragraph [0038-0039]). Donovan also teaches a system that provides instant messaging (IM) on and through the Internet across various platforms. More particular, the system allows individuals to exchange messages and

files over the Internet substantially instantaneously across multiple and different

protocols and systems. For example, Bill has an account at Yahoo that is adapted to

receive IM message using a protocol. Ted has an account at AOL that is adapted to

receive IM message using another protocol. Bill can exchange instant messages with

Ted and Rhoda, and Ted and Rhoda can exchange messages with Bill. When Bill talks

to Ted, their messages appear in the message area. The above information shows that

user accounts being adapted to forward and receive IM messages using different

protocols (figs. 1& 5, page 1, col. left, lines 5-10; page 4, col. left, lines 18-24; page 3,

col. Right, lines 1-10).

Cooperman teaches to initiate an IM conversation, an initiating user may simply

select a user ID of a user to be contacted from the buddy list provided by the IM client

application. The IM client application then sends a request to initiate an IM session to

an IM client application remotely executing on the computer of the user having the

selected user ID. The above information shows using ID to identify the user as a

contact and using ID to lauching an IM session with the user (paragraph [0004].

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to apply Cooperman's teaching of initiating an IM conversation,

an initiating user may simply select a user ID of a user to be contacted from the buddy

list provided by the IM client application. The IM client application then sends a request

to initiate an IM session to an IM client application remotely executing on the computer

of the user having the selected user ID and Donovan's teaching of receiving Bill's ID

from Bill and providing instant messaging (IM) on and through the Internet across

various platforms, allowing individuals to exchange messages and files over the Internet

substantially instantaneously across multiple and different protocols and exchanging

instant messages using different protocols from different user accounts to

Knauerhase's system in order to provide systems and methods that allow a user to

decide whether or not to participate in the requested IM session, and to provide secure

access to the personal information only for the selected user or contact and further to

allow individuals to engage in an instant messaging session even if the individuals are

subscribers to different service providers and further to provide instant messaging

between multiple IM platforms and prevent hacker to access user's account for updating

or modifying user's data.

        As to claim 11, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

        "first receive logic, processed by the computing device at the sender location, the

first receive logic configured to receive first user input, the first user input comprising

multiple instant messaging (IM) addresses of an individual contact" as a software is

configured to receive a sender select multiple IM addresses of a recipient to route

messages to the recipient .The recipient is represented as a contact of the sender. The

sender is represented as a user (page 1, col. Right, lines 8-22, lines 55-61; page 2, col.

Left, lines 1-3),

        "the multiple IM addresses comprising IM addresses from different IM accounts"

as a single user may have many different associated communication channels through

which the user can receives messages from other users. For example, a user Rob may

have multiple e-mail addresses and multiple IM addresses, any one or more of which

may be used to route messages to Rob. In particular, a user may have accounts on two

or more different IM networks that facilitate interoperation between them e.g., a user on

IM network X can send/receive IMs to /from a user on IM network Y. Thus, user Rob's

multiple IM addresses can be from different IM accounts (page 1, col. Right, lines 10-15;

page 3, lines 2-5),

"correlate logic, processed by the computing device at the sender location, and

configured to correlate each of the multiple IM addresses to a reference identifier (ID)"

as a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses and multiple IM addresses, any one

or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a

message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different

communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the

message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender

chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by the

pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a recipient

and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the sender

can choose multiple IM addresses of a recipient to route messages to the recipient,

messages are correlated to IM addresses. Since a message is correlated to the

recipient's ID; thus, each IM address is correlated to the recipient's ID (page 1, col.

right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56),

"the reference identifier (ID) being adapted to identify the contact" as specifying m.to ID to identify the recipient. It means that the ID is used to identify the recipient. The ID is defined by the sender (page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56);

"the email window logic configured to provide an email window configured to utilize the reference identifier (ID) for lauching an IM session with the contact from the email window" as a pop-window for receiving and monitoring e-mail messages or an instant messages. This pop-window does not utilize reference identifier (ID) for lauching an IM session with the contact. This pop-window is represented as email window (paragraph [0003]);

Knauerhase does not explicitly teach the claimed limitation "correlate logic, processed by the computing device at the sender location, and the second receive logic configured to receive second user input, the second user input comprising a reference identifier (ID), each of the different IM accounts being adapted to transmit and receive IM messages using a different IM protocol, email window logic, processed by the computing device at the sender location, configured to utilize the reference identifier (ID) for launching an IM session with the individual contact".

Donovan teaches in step 100 Bill issues a command to his PC 10 to establish a connection to the Internet 12. In response, in step 102 the PC 10 activates the DUN component 32 that attempts to connect to the SP 14 using a standard protocol such as PPP. In order to gain access, the DUN component 32 sends the user's ID and password to the SP 14's authorization database 42 (step 104). The authorization database 42 checks if Bill is a current and valid user of the SP and verifies the user ID

and password. If the user ID and password are correct and Bill's account is active, the

DUN connection is verified and Bill will have access through the SP 14 (step 106). If for

any reason Bill's status is unacceptable, access to the SP 14 and, through the SP 14, to

the IM server 30 is refused (page 3, paragraph [0038-0039]).

In addition, Donovan teaches a system that provides instant messaging (IM) on

and through the Internet across various platforms. More particular, the system allows

individuals to exchange messages and files over the Internet substantially

instantaneously across multiple and different protocols and systems. For example, Bill

has an account at Yahoo that is adapted to receive IM message using a protocol. Ted

has an account at AOL that is adapted to receive IM message using another protocol.

Bill can exchange instant messages with Ted and Rhoda, and Ted and Rhoda can

exchange messages with Bill. When Bill talks to Ted, their messages appear in the

message area. The above information shows that user accounts being adapted to

forward and receive IM messages using different protocols (figs. 1& 5, page 1, col. left,

lines 5-10; page 4, col. left, lines 18-24; page 3, col. Right, lines 1-10).

Cooperman teaches to initiate an IM conversation, an initiating user may simply

select a user ID of a user to be contacted from the buddy list provided by the IM client

application. The IM client application then sends a request to initiate an IM session to

an IM client application remotely executing on the computer of the user having the

selected user ID. The above information shows using ID to identify the user as a

contact and using ID to lauching an IM session with the user (paragraph [0004].

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to apply Cooperman's teaching of initiating an IM conversation,

an initiating user may simply select a user ID of a user to be contacted from the buddy

list provided by the IM client application. The IM client application then sends a request

to initiate an IM session to an IM client application remotely executing on the computer

of the user having the selected user ID and Donovan's teaching of receiving Bill's ID

from Bill and providing instant messaging (IM) on and through the Internet across

various platforms, allowing individuals to exchange messages and files over the Internet

substantially instantaneously across multiple and different protocols and exchanging

instant messages using different protocols from different user accounts to

Knauerhase's system in order to provide systems and methods that allow a user to

decide whether or not to participate in the requested IM session, and to provide secure

access to the personal information only for the selected user or contact and further to

allow individuals to engage in an instant messaging session even if the individuals are

subscribers to different service providers and further to provide instant messaging

between multiple IM platforms and prevent hacker to access user's account for updating

or modifying user's data.

As to claim 11, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

"first receive logic, processed by the computing device at the sender location, the

first receive logic configured to receive first user input, the first user input comprising

multiple instant messaging (IM) addresses of an individual contact" as a software is

configured to receive a sender select multiple IM addresses of a recipient to route

messages to the recipient .The recipient is represented as a contact of the sender. The

sender is represented as a user (page 1, col. Right, lines 8-22, lines 55-61; page 2, col.

Left, lines 1-3),

"the multiple IM addresses comprising IM addresses from different IM accounts",

as a single user may have many different associated communication channels through

which the user can receives messages from other users. For example, a user Rob may

have multiple e-mail addresses and multiple IM addresses, any one or more of which

may be used to route messages to Rob. In particular, a user may have accounts on two

or more different IM networks that facilitate interoperation between them e.g., a user on

IM network X can send/receive IMs to /from a user on IM network Y. Thus, user Rob's

multiple IM addresses can be from different IM accounts (page 1, col. Right, lines 10-15;

page 3, lines 2-5),

"correlate logic, processed by the computing device at the sender location, and

configured to correlate each of the multiple IM addresses to a reference identifier (ID)"

as a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses and multiple IM addresses, any one

or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a

message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different

communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the

message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender

chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by the

pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a recipient

and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the sender

can choose multiple IM addresses of a recipient to route messages to the recipient,

messages are correlated to IM addresses. Since a message is correlated to the

recipient's ID; thus, each IM address is correlated to the recipient's ID (page 1, col.

right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56),

"the reference identifier (ID) being adapted to identify the contact" as specifying

m.to ID to identify the recipient. It means that the ID is used to identify the recipient.

The ID is defined by the sender (page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56);

"the email window logic configured to provide an email window configured to

utilize the reference identifier (ID) for launching an IM session with the individual contact

from the email window" as as a pop-window for receiving and monitoring e-mail

messages or an instant messages. This pop-window does not utilize reference

identifier (ID) for lauching an IM session with the contact. This pop-window is

represented as email window (paragraph [0003]).

Knauerhase does not explicitly teach the claimed limitation "correlate logic,

processed by the computing device at the sender location, and the second receive logic

configured to receive second user input, the second user input comprising a reference

identifier (ID), each of the different IM accounts being adapted to transmit and receive

IM messages using a different IM protocol, email window logic, processed by the

computing device at the sender location, configured to provide an email window

configured to utilize the reference identifier (ID) for launching an IM session with the

individual contact".

Donovan teaches in step 100 Bill issues a command to his PC 10 to establish a

connection to the Internet 12. In response, in step 102 the PC 10 activates the DUN

component 32 that attempts to connect to the SP 14 using a standard protocol such as

PPP. In order to gain access, the DUN component 32 sends the user's ID and

password to the SP 14's authorization database 42 (step 104). The authorization

database 42 checks if Bill is a current and valid user of the SP and verifies the user ID

and password. If the user ID and password are correct and Bill's account is active, the

DUN connection is verified and Bill will have access through the SP 14 (step 106). If for

any reason Bill's status is unacceptable, access to the SP 14 and, through the SP 14, to

the IM server 30 is refused (page 3, paragraph [0038-0039]).

In addition, Donovan teaches a system that provides instant messaging (IM) on

and through the Internet across various platforms. More particular, the system allows

individuals to exchange messages and files over the Internet substantially

instantaneously across multiple and different protocols and systems. For example, Bill

has an account at Yahoo that is adapted to receive IM message using a protocol. Ted

has an account at AOL that is adapted to receive IM message using another protocol.

Bill can exchange instant messages with Ted and Rhoda, and Ted and Rhoda can

exchange messages with Bill. When Bill talks to Ted, their messages appear in the

message area. The above information shows that user accounts being adapted to

forward and receive IM messages using different protocols (figs. 1& 5, page 1, col. left,

lines 5-10; page 4, col. left, lines 18-24; page 3, col. Right, lines 1-10).

Duarte teaches using user ID for lauching an IM session with the contact or user

and using user ID to identify a user or contact (paragraph 0004).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to apply Duarte's teaching of using user ID for lauching an IM

session with the contact or user and using user ID to identify a user or contact and

Donovan's teaching of receiving Bill's ID from Bill and providing instant messaging (IM)

on and through the Internet across various platforms, allowing individuals to exchange

messages and files over the Internet substantially instantaneously across multiple and

different protocols and exchanging instant messages using different protocols from

different user accounts to Knauerhase's system in order to provide systems and

methods that allow a user to decide whether or not to participate in the requested IM

session, and to provide secure access to the personal information only for the selected

user or contact and further to allow individuals to engage in an instant messaging

session even if the individuals are subscribers to different service providers and further

to provide instant messaging between multiple IM platforms and prevent hacker to

access user's account for updating or modifying user's data.

For the above reasons, Examiner believed that the previous office action is

proper.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4.   Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Knauerhase (US 2003/0023691 A1) in view of Cooperman et al (or hereinafter

"Cooperman") (US 2005/0223069).

As to claim 1, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, an instant messaging

(IM) address of contact of the sender" as a single user may have many different

associated communication channels through which the user can receive messages from

other users. For example, a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses and multiple

IM addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As

shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more

of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may

desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the

sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. The above

information shows that the sender has received IM addresses of the recipient.   The

recipient is represented as a contact of the sender. The sender is represented as a

user. The above information shows that the sender has included a computing device to receive an instant messaging at the sender location (page 1, col. Right, lines 8-22),

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, an email address of the contact of the sender" as a single user may have many different associated communication channels through which the user can receives messages from other users. For example, a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses and multiple IM addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. The above information shows that the sender has received email addresses of the recipient. The recipient is represented as a contact of the sender. The sender is represented as a user. The sender is represented as a user. The above information shows that the sender has included a computing device to receive email address of a contact at the sender location (page 1, col. Right, lines 8-22),

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the IM address to the reference identifier (ID)" as a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses and multiple IM addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212.

Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As

indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m,

intended for a recipient and parses it to identify a recipient (specified by m.to ID). In

case, when the sender can choose multiple IM addresses of a recipient to route

messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to IM addresses. Since a message

is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, each IM address is correlated to the recipient's

ID (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56),

"the reference identifier (ID) being adapted to identify the individual contact" as

specifying m.to ID to identify the recipient. It means that the ID is used to identify the

recipient (page 3, col. Right, lines 53-56),

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the email address to

the reference identifier (ID)" as a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses, any

one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a

message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different

communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the

message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender

chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by the

pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a recipient

and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the sender

can choose multiple email addresses of a recipient to route messages to the recipient,

messages are correlated to email addresses. Since a message is correlated to the

recipient's ID; thus, each IM address is correlated to the recipient's ID (page 1, col.

right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 53-56);

"an email window configured to utilize the reference identifier (ID) for lauching an

IM session with the contact from the email window" as a pop-window for receiving and

monitoring e-mail messages or an instant messages. This pop-window does not utilize

reference identifier (ID) for lauching an IM session with the contact. This pop-window is

represented as email window (paragraph [0003]).

Knauerhase does not explicitly teach " receiving, by the computing device at the

sender location, the reference identifier (ID) being adapted to identify the contact of the

sender; providing, by the computing device at the sender location, configured to utilize

the reference identifier (ID) for lauching an IM session with the contact ".

Cooperman teaches to initiate an IM conversation, an initiating user may simply

select a user ID of a user to be contacted from the buddy list provided by the IM client

application. The IM client application then sends a request to initiate an IM session to

an IM client application remotely executing on the computer of the user having the

selected user ID. The above information shows using ID to identify the user as a

contact and using ID to lauching an IM session with the user (paragraph [0004].

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to apply Cooperman's teaching of initiating an IM

conversation, an initiating user may simply select a user ID of a user to be contacted

from the buddy list provided by the IM client application. The IM client application then

sends a request to initiate an IM session to an IM client application remotely executing

on the computer of the user having the selected user ID   to Knauerhase's system in

order to provide systems and methods that allow a user to decide whether or not to

participate in the requested IM session, and to provide secure access to the personal

information only for the selected user or contact.

As to claim 2, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, a telephone number

of the contact" as (fig. 2, page 1, col. Right, lines 22-24);

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the telephone

number of the contact to the reference identifier (ID)" as (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22;

page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56);

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, an address of the

contact" as (fig. 2, page 1, col. Right, lines 22-24);

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, an address of the

contact to the reference identifier (ID)" as (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col.

Right, lines 55-56);

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, personal information

of the individual contact" as (fig. 2, page 1, col. Right, lines 22-24);

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the personal

information of contact to the reference identifier (ID)" as (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22;

page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56).

As to claim 3, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, a telephone number of the contact" as the sender must keep track of the recipient's various device addresses e.g., email addresses and telephone numbers. This information shows that the sender has received the recipient's email address (fig. 2, page 1, col. Right, lines 22-24); and

"correlating , by the computing device at the sender location, the telephone number of the individual contact to the reference identifier (ID)" a user Rob may have multiple telephone numbers any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the sender can choose multiple telephone numbers of the recipient to route messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to these telephone numbers. Since a message is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, each telephone number is correlated to the recipient's ID (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56).

As to claim 4, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, an address of the

individual contact" as the sender keeps track of the recipient's various device addresses

e.g., voice email, email addresses, telephone number and fax numbers. This

information shows that the sender must receive addresses of the recipient (fig. 2, page

1, col. Right, lines 22-24); and

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the address of the

individual contact to the reference identifier (ID)" as a user Rob may have voice email

and email address, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob.

As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or

more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient

may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212.

Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As

indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m,

intended for a recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In

case, when the sender can choose another email address of the recipient to route

messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to IM addresses. Since a message

is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, another email address is correlated to the

recipient's ID (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56).

As to claim 5, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, personal information

of the contact" as the sender keeps track of the recipient's various device addresses

e.g., email address, telephone number and fax numbers. This information shows that

the sender has received fax numbers of the recipient. Fax numbers are represented as

personal information (fig. 2, page 1, col. Right, lines 22-24); and

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the personal

information of individual contact to the reference identifier (ID)" a user Rob may have

fax numbers, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As

shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more

of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may

desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the

sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by

the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a

recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the

sender can choose fax numbers of a recipient to route messages to the recipient,

messages are correlated to fax numbers. Since a message is correlated to the

recipient's ID; thus, each fax number is correlated to the recipient's ID. These fax

numbers are presented as the personal information of the recipient (page 1, col. right,

lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56).

5.   Claims 6-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Knauerhase (US 2003/0023691 A1) in view of Donovan (US 2004/0193722) and

Cooperman et al (or hereinafter "Cooperman") (US 2005/0223069).

As to claim 6, Knauerhse teaches the claimed limitations:

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, user input, the user input

comprising multiple instant messaging (IM) addresses of an individual contact" as a

single user may have many different associated communication channels through which

the user can receives messages from other users. For example, a user Rob may have

multiple e-mail addresses and multiple IM addresses, any one or more of which may be

used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210

can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different communication channels 212.

Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than

one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the

message is to be sent over. As indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure

first accepts a message, intended for a recipient. The above information shows that the

sender can choose multiple IM addresses of a recipient to route messages to the

recipient. When the sender chooses multiple IM addresses of the recipient, these

multiple IM addresses of the recipient are inputted and the routing procedure receives

the input. The recipient is represented as a contact of the sender. The sender is

represented as a user (page 1, col. Right, lines 8-22, page 3, col. Left, lines 53-54),

"the multiple IM addresses comprising IM addresses from different IM accounts"

as a single user may have many different associated communication channels through

which the user can receives messages from other users. For example, a user Rob may

have multiple e-mail addresses and multiple IM addresses, any one or more of which

may be used to route messages to Rob. In particular, a user may have accounts on two

or more different IM networks that facilitate interoperation between them e.g., a user on

IM network X can send/receive IMs to /from a user on IM network Y. Thus, user Rob's

multiple IM addresses are from different IM accounts (page 1, col. Right, lines 10-15;

page 3, col. Left lines 2-5),

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, each of the multiple

IM addresses to the reference identifier(ID)" as a user Rob may have multiple e-mail

addresses and multiple IM addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route

messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent

over any of one or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender

or the recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the

channels 212. Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to

be sent over. As indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a

message, m, intended for a recipient and parses it to identify a recipient (specified by

m.to ID). In case, when the sender can choose multiple IM addresses of a recipient to

route messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to IM addresses. Since each

message is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, each IM address is correlated to the

recipient's ID (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56),

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, a reference identifier

ID, the reference identifier (ID) being adapted to identify the individual contact" to

identify the recipient specified by m.toID. It means that the ID is used to identify the

recipient. The ID is not defined by the sender (page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56).

"an email window configured to utilize the reference identifier (ID) for lauching an

IM session with the contact from the email window" as a pop-window for receiving and

monitoring e-mail messages or an instant messages. This pop-window does not utilize

reference identifier (ID) for lauching an IM session with the contact. This pop-window is

represented as email window (paragraph [0003]).

Knauerhase does not explicitly teach the claimed limitation "each of the different

IM accounts being adapted to transmit and receive IM messages using a different IM

protocol receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, providing, by the

computing device at the sender location, configured to utilize the reference identifier

(ID) for launching an IM session with the individual contact".

Donovan teaches in step 100 Bill issues a command to his PC 10 to establish a

connection to the Internet 12. In response, in step 102 the PC 10 activates the DUN

component 32 that attempts to connect to the SP 14 using a standard protocol such as

PPP. In order to gain access, the DUN component 32 sends the user's ID and

password to the SP 14's authorization database 42 (step 104). The authorization

database 42 checks if Bill is a current and valid user of the SP and verifies the user ID

and password. If the user ID and password are correct and Bill's account is active, the

DUN connection is verified and Bill will have access through the SP 14 (step 106). If for

any reason Bill's status is unacceptable, access to the SP 14 and, through the SP 14, to

the IM server 30 is refused (page 3, paragraph [0038-0039]). Donovan also teaches a

system that provides instant messaging (IM) on and through the Internet across various

platforms. More particular, the system allows individuals to exchange messages and

files over the Internet substantially instantaneously across multiple and different

protocols and systems. For example, Bill has an account at Yahoo that is adapted to

receive IM message using a protocol. Ted has an account at AOL that is adapted to

receive IM message using another protocol. Bill can exchange instant messages with

Ted and Rhoda, and Ted and Rhoda can exchange messages with Bill. When Bill talks

to Ted, their messages appear in the message area. The above information shows that

user accounts being adapted to forward and receive IM messages using different

protocols (figs. 1& 5, page 1, col. left, lines 5-10; page 4, col. left, lines 18-24; page 3,

col. Right, lines 1-10).

Cooperman teaches to initiate an IM conversation, an initiating user may simply

select a user ID of a user to be contacted from the buddy list provided by the IM client

application. The IM client application then sends a request to initiate an IM session to

an IM client application remotely executing on the computer of the user having the

selected user ID. The above information shows using ID to identify the user as a

contact and using ID to lauching an IM session with the user (paragraph [0004].

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to apply Cooperman's teaching of initiating an IM

conversation, an initiating user may simply select a user ID of a user to be contacted

from the buddy list provided by the IM client application. The IM client application then

sends a request to initiate an IM session to an IM client application remotely executing

on the computer of the user having the selected user ID and Donovan's teaching of

receiving Bill's ID from Bill and providing instant messaging (IM) on and through the

Internet across various platforms, allowing individuals to exchange messages and files

over the Internet substantially instantaneously across multiple and different protocols

and exchanging instant messages using different protocols from different user

accounts to Knauerhase's system in order to provide systems and methods that allow

a user to decide whether or not to participate in the requested IM session, and to

provide secure access to the personal information only for the selected user or contact

and further to allow individuals to engage in an instant messaging session even if the

individuals are subscribers to different service providers and further to provide instant

messaging between multiple IM platforms and prevent hacker to access user's account

for updating or modifying user's data.

As to claim 7, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, an email address of

the individual contact" as the sender must know and keep track of the recipient's

various device addresses e.g., email address and telephone number. This information

shows that the sender has received the recipient's email address (fig. 2, page 1, col.

Right, lines 22-24) and

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the email address of

the individual contact to the reference identifier (ID)" as a user Rob may have multiple e-

mail addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As

shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more

of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may

desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the

sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by

the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a

recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the

sender can choose multiple email addresses of a recipient to route messages to the

recipient, messages are correlated to email addresses. Since a message is correlated

to the recipient's ID; thus, each email address is correlated to the recipient's ID (page 1,

col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56).

As to claim 8, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, a telephone number

of the individual contact" as the sender must know and keep track of the recipient's

various device addresses e.g., email address and telephone number. This information

shows that the sender has received the recipient's email address (page 1, col. Right,

lines 22-24); and

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the telephone

number of the individual contact to the reference identifier ID" a user Rob may have

multiple telephone numbers any one or more of which may be used to route messages

to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of

one or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the

recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212.

Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As

indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m,

intended for a recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In

case, when the sender can choose multiple telephone numbers of the recipient to route

messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to these telephone numbers. Since

a message is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, each telephone number is correlated

to the recipient's ID (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56),

As to claim 9, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitation "receiving, by the

computing device at the sender location, an address of the individual contact" as the

sender must know and keep track of the recipient's various device addresses e.g., voice

email, email address, telephone number and fax numbers. This information shows that

the sender must receive addresses of the recipient (page 1, col. Right, lines 22-24); and

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the address of the

individual contact to the reference identifier ID" as a user Rob may have voice email and

email address, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As

shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more

of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may

desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the

sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by

the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a

recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the

sender can choose another email address of the recipient to route messages to the

recipient, messages are correlated to IM addresses. Since a message is correlated to

the recipient's ID; thus, another email address is correlated to the recipient's ID (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56),

As to claim 10, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, personal information of the individual contact" as the sender must know and keep track of the recipient's various device addresses e.g., email address, telephone number and fax numbers. This information shows that the sender has received fax numbers (page 1, col. Right, lines 22-24); and

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the personal information of individual contact to the reference identifier ID" a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the sender can choose pager numbers of a recipient to route messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to pager numbers. Since a message is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, each IM address is correlated to the recipient's ID.

These pager numbers are presented as the personal information of the recipient (page

1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56),

        As to claim 11, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

        "first receive logic, processed by the computing device at the sender location, the

first receive logic configured to receive first user input, the first user input comprising

multiple instant messaging (IM) addresses of an individual contact" as a software is

configured to receive a sender select multiple IM addresses of a recipient to route

messages to the recipient .The recipient is represented as a contact of the sender. The

sender is represented as a user (page 1, col. Right, lines 8-22, lines 55-61; page 2, col.

Left, lines 1-3),

        "the multiple IM addresses comprising IM addresses from different IM accounts"

as a single user may have many different associated communication channels through

which the user can receives messages from other users. For example, a user Rob may

have multiple e-mail addresses and multiple IM addresses, any one or more of which

may be used to route messages to Rob. In particular, a user may have accounts on two

or more different IM networks that facilitate interoperation between them e.g., a user on

IM network X can send/receive IMs to /from a user on IM network Y. Thus, user Rob's

multiple IM addresses can be from different IM accounts (page 1, col. Right, lines 10-15;

page 3, lines 2-5),

        "correlate logic, processed by the computing device at the sender location, and

configured to correlate each of the multiple IM addresses to a reference identifier (ID)"

as a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses and multiple IM addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the sender can choose multiple IM addresses of a recipient to route messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to IM addresses. Since a message is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, each IM address is correlated to the recipient's ID (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56),

"the reference identifier (ID) being adapted to identify the contact" as specifying m.to ID to identify the recipient. It means that the ID is used to identify the recipient. The ID is defined by the sender (page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56);

"he email window logic configured to provide an email window configured to utilize the reference identifier (ID) for lauching an IM session with the contact from the email window" as a pop-window for receiving and monitoring e-mail messages or an instant messages. This pop-window does not utilize reference identifier (ID) for lauching an IM session with the contact. This pop-window is represented as email window (paragraph [0003]).

Knauerhase does not explicitly teach the claimed limitation "correlate logic,

processed by the computing device at the sender location, and the second receive logic

configured to receive second user input, the second user input comprising a reference

identifier (ID), each of the different IM accounts being adapted to transmit and receive

IM messages using a different IM protocol, email window logic, processed by the

computing device at the sender location, configured to utilize the reference identifier (ID)

for launching an IM session with the individual contact".

Donovan teaches in step 100 Bill issues a command to his PC 10 to establish a

connection to the Internet 12. In response, in step 102 the PC 10 activates the DUN

component 32 that attempts to connect to the SP 14 using a standard protocol such as

PPP. In order to gain access, the DUN component 32 sends the user's ID and

password to the SP 14's authorization database 42 (step 104). The authorization

database 42 checks if Bill is a current and valid user of the SP and verifies the user ID

and password. If the user ID and password are correct and Bill's account is active, the

DUN connection is verified and Bill will have access through the SP 14 (step 106). If for

any reason Bill's status is unacceptable, access to the SP 14 and, through the SP 14, to

the IM server 30 is refused (page 3, paragraph [0038-0039]).

In addition, Donovan teaches a system that provides instant messaging (IM) on

and through the Internet across various platforms. More particular, the system allows

individuals to exchange messages and files over the Internet substantially

instantaneously across multiple and different protocols and systems. For example, Bill

has an account at Yahoo that is adapted to receive IM message using a protocol. Ted

has an account at AOL that is adapted to receive IM message using another protocol.

Bill can exchange instant messages with Ted and Rhoda, and Ted and Rhoda can

exchange messages with Bill. When Bill talks to Ted, their messages appear in the

message area. The above information shows that user accounts being adapted to

forward and receive IM messages using different protocols (figs. 1& 5, page 1, col. left,

lines 5-10; page 4, col. left, lines 18-24; page 3, col. Right, lines 1-10).

Cooperman teaches to initiate an IM conversation, an initiating user may simply select

a user ID of a user to be contacted from the buddy list provided by the IM client

application. The IM client application then sends a request to initiate an IM session to

an IM client application remotely executing on the computer of the user having the

selected user ID. The above information shows using ID to identify the user as a

contact and using ID to lauching an IM session with the user (paragraph [0004].

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to apply Cooperman's teaching of initiating an IM

conversation, an initiating user may simply select a user ID of a user to be contacted

from the buddy list provided by the IM client application. The IM client application then

sends a request to initiate an IM session to an IM client application remotely executing

on the computer of the user having the selected user ID and Donovan's teaching of

receiving Bill's ID from Bill and providing instant messaging (IM) on and through the

Internet across various platforms, allowing individuals to exchange messages and files

over the Internet substantially instantaneously across multiple and different protocols

and exchanging instant messages using different protocols from different user

accounts to Knauerhase's system in order to provide systems and methods that allow a user to decide whether or not to participate in the requested IM session, and to provide secure access to the personal information only for the selected user or contact and further to allow individuals to engage in an instant messaging session even if the individuals are subscribers to different service providers and further to provide instant messaging between multiple IM platforms and prevent hacker to access user's account for updating or modifying user's data.

As to claim 12, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

"receive logic, processed by the computing device at the sender location and configured to receive an email address of the individual contact" as a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). The above information shows the system that has included a software to allow the sender to receive multiple email addresses of the recipient (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56); and

"correlate logic, processed by the computing device at the sender location, the correlate logic configured to correlate the email address of the individual contact to the reference identifier ID" as a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the sender can choose multiple email addresses of a recipient to route messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to email addresses. Since a message is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, each email address is correlated to the recipient's ID (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56).

As to claim 13, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

" means for receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, an email address of the individual contact" as the sender must know and keep track of the recipient's various device addresses e.g., email address and telephone number. This information has received that the sender must receive the recipient's email address (page 1, col. Right, lines 22-24) and

"means for correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the email address of the individual contact to the reference identifier (ID)" as a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the sender can choose multiple email addresses of a recipient to route messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to email addresses. Since a message is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, each email address is correlated to the recipient's ID (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56).

As to claim 14, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

" receive logic, processed by the computing device at the sender location, and configured to receive a telephone number of the individual contact" as the sender must know and keep track of the recipient's various device addresses e.g., email address and telephone number. This information shows that the sender has received the recipient's telephone number (page 1, col. Right, lines 22-24); and

"correlate logic, processed by the computing device at the sender location, and the correlate logic configured to correlate the telephone number of the individual contact

to the reference identifier (ID)" as a user Rob may have multiple telephone number any

one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a

message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different

communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the

message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender

chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by the

pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a recipient

and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the sender

can choose multiple telephone numbers of the recipient to route messages to the

recipient, messages are correlated to IM addresses. Since a message is correlated to

the recipient's ID; thus, each telephone number is correlated to the recipient's ID (page

1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56).

As to claim 15, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

"means for receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, a

telephone number of the individual contact" as the sender must know and keep track of

the recipient's various device addresses e.g., email address and telephone number.

This information shows that the sender must receive the recipient's email address (page

1, col. Right, lines 22-24); and

"means for correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the

telephone number of the individual contact to the reference identifier ID" as a user Rob

may have multiple telephone number any one or more of which may be used to route

messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent

over any of one or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender

or the recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the

channels 212. Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to

be sent over. As indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a

message, m, intended for a recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by

m.to ID). In case, when the sender can choose multiple telephone numbers of the

recipient to route messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to IM addresses.

Since a message is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, each telephone number is

correlated to the recipient's ID (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-

56).

As to claim 16, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations

"receive logic, processed by the computing device at the sender location,

configured to receive an address of the individual contact" as the sender must know and

keep track of the recipient's various device addresses e.g., voice email, email address,

telephone number and fax numbers. This information shows that the sender must

receive addresses of the recipient (page 1, col. Right, lines 22-24); and

"correlating logic, processed by the computing device at the sender location, the

correlate logic configured to correlate the address of individual contact to the reference

identifier ID" as a user Rob may have voice email and email addresses, any one or

more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message

200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the sender can choose another email address of the recipient to route messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to IM addresses. Since a message is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, another email address is correlated to the recipient's ID (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56).

As to claim 17, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations

"means for receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, an address of the individual contact" as the sender must know and keep track of the recipient's various device addresses e.g., voice email, email address, telephone number and fax numbers. This information shows that the sender must receive addresses of the recipient (page 1, col. Right, lines 22-24); and

"means for correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the address of the individual contact to the reference identifier (ID)" as a user Rob may have voice email and email address, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender

or the recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the

channels 212. Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to

be sent over. As indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a

message, m, intended for a recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by

m.to ID). In case, when the sender can choose another email address of the recipient

to route messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to IM addresses. Since a

message is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, another email address is correlated to

the recipient's ID (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56).

As to claim 18, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

"receive logic, processed by the computing device at the sender location,

configured to receive personal information of the individual contact" as the sender must

know and keep track of the recipient's various device addresses e.g., email address,

telephone number and fax numbers. This information shows that the sender has

received addresses of the recipient (page 1, col. Right, lines 22-24); and

"correlate logic, processed by the computing device at the sender location,

configured to correlate the personal information of individual contact to the reference

identifier ID" as a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses, any one or more of

which may be used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a

recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different communication

channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the message be sent

over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender chooses which of the

channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing

procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a recipient and parses it to identify

the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the sender can choose pager

numbers of a recipient to route messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to

pager numbers. Since a message is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, each IM

address is correlated to the recipient's ID. These pager numbers are presented as the

personal information of the recipient (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right,

lines 55-56).

As to claim 19, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

"means for receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, personal

information of the individual contact" as the sender must know and keep track of the

recipient's various device addresses e.g., email address, telephone number and fax

numbers. This information shows that the sender has received addresses of the

recipient (page 1, col. Right, lines 22-24); and

"means for correlating, processed by the computing device at the sender

location, the personal information of individual contact to the reference identifier (ID)" as

a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses, any one or more of which may be used

to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can

be sent over any of one or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the

sender or the recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the

channels 212. Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to

be sent over. As indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a

message, m, intended for a recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by

m.to ID). In case, when the sender can choose pager numbers of a recipient to route

messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to pager numbers. Since a

message is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, each IM address is correlated to the

recipient's ID. These pager numbers are presented as the personal information of the

recipient (page .1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56).

6.   Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Knauerhase (US 2003/0023691 A1) in view of Duarte et al (or hereinafter "Duarte") (US

2003/0030670).

As to claim 1, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, an instant messaging

(IM) address of contact of the sender" as a single user may have many different

associated communication channels through which the user can receive messages from

other users. For example, a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses and multiple

IM addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As

shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more

of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may

desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the

sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. The above

information shows that the sender has received IM addresses of the recipient.   The

recipient is represented as a contact of the sender. The sender is represented as a

user. The above information shows that the sender has included a computing device to

receive an instant messaging at the sender location (page 1, col. Right, lines 8-22),

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, an email address of

the contact of the sender" as a single user may have many different associated

communication channels through which the user can receives messages from other

users. For example, a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses and multiple IM

addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As

shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more

of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may

desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the

sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. The above

information shows that the sender has received email addresses of the recipient.   The

recipient is represented as a contact of the sender. The sender is represented as a

user. The sender is represented as a user. The above information shows that the

sender has included a computing device to receive email address of a contact at the

sender location (page 1, col. Right, lines 8-22),

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the IM address to

the reference identifier (ID)" as a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses and

multiple IM addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to

Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one

or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient

may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212.

Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As

indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m,

intended for a recipient and parses it to identify a recipient (specified by m.to ID). In

case, when the sender can choose multiple IM addresses of a recipient to route

messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to IM addresses. Since a message

is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, each IM address is correlated to the recipient's

ID (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56),

"the reference identifier (ID) being adapted to identify the individual contact" as

specifying m.to ID to identify the recipient. It means that the ID is used to identify the

recipient (page 3, col. Right, lines 53-56),

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the email address to

the reference identifier (ID)" as a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses, any

one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a

message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different

communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the

message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender

chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by the

pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a recipient

and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the sender

can choose multiple email addresses of a recipient to route messages to the recipient,

messages are correlated to email addresses. Since a message is correlated to the

recipient's ID; thus, each IM address is correlated to the recipient's ID (page 1, col.

right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 53-56);

"an email window configured to utilize the reference identifier (ID) for lauching an

IM session with the contact from the email window" as a pop-window for receiving and

monitoring e-mail messages or an instant messages. This pop-window does not utilize

reference identifier (ID) for lauching an IM session with the contact. This pop-window is

represented as email window (paragraph [0003]).

Knauerhase does not explicitly teach " receiving, by the computing device at the

sender location, the reference identifier (ID) being adapted to identify the contact of the

sender; providing, by the computing device at the sender location, configured to utilize

the reference identifier (ID) for lauching an IM session with the contact".

Duarte teaches using user ID for lauching an IM session with the contact or user

and using user ID to identify a user or contact (paragraph 0004).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to apply Duarte's teaching of using user ID for lauching an IM

session with the contact or user and using user ID to identify a user or contact to

Knauerhase's system in order to provide systems and methods that allow a user to

decide whether or not to participate in the requested IM session, and to provide secure

access to the personal information only for the selected user or contact.

As to claim 2, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, a telephone number
of the contact" as (fig. 2, page 1, col. Right, lines 22-24);

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the telephone
number of the contact to the reference identifier (ID)" as (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22;
page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56);

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, an address of the
contact" as (fig. 2, page 1, col. Right, lines 22-24);

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, an address of the
contact to the reference identifier (ID)" as (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col.
Right, lines 55-56);

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, personal information
of the individual contact" as (fig. 2, page 1, col. Right, lines 22-24);

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the personal
information of contact to the reference identifier (ID)" as (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22;
page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56).

As to claim 3, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, a telephone number
of the contact" as the sender must keep track of the recipient's various device
addresses e.g., email addresses and telephone numbers. This information shows that
the sender has received the recipient's email address (fig. 2, page 1, col. Right, lines
22-24); and

"correlating , by the computing device at the sender location, the telephone

number of the individual contact to the reference identifier (ID)" a user Rob may have

multiple telephone numbers any one or more of which may be used to route messages

to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of

one or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the

recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212.

Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As

indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m,

intended for a recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In

case, when the sender can choose multiple telephone numbers of the recipient to route

messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to these telephone numbers. Since

a message is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, each telephone number is correlated

to the recipient's ID (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56).

As to claim 4, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, an address of the

individual contact" as the sender keeps track of the recipient's various device addresses

e.g., voice email, email addresses, telephone number and fax numbers. This

information shows that the sender must receive addresses of the recipient (fig. 2, page

1, col. Right, lines 22-24); and

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the address of the

individual contact to the reference identifier (ID)" as a user Rob may have voice email

and email address, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob.

As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or

more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient

may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212.

Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As

indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m,

intended for a recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In

case, when the sender can choose another email address of the recipient to route

messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to IM addresses. Since a message

is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, another email address is correlated to the

recipient's ID (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56).

As to claim 5, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, personal information

of the contact" as the sender keeps track of the recipient's various device addresses

e.g., email address, telephone number and fax numbers. This information shows that

the sender has received fax numbers of the recipient. Fax numbers are represented as

personal information (fig. 2, page 1, col. Right, lines 22-24); and

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the personal

information of individual contact to the reference identifier (ID)" a user Rob may have

fax numbers, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As

shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more

of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may

desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the

sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by

the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a

recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the

sender can choose fax numbers of a recipient to route messages to the recipient,

messages are correlated to fax numbers. Since a message is correlated to the

recipient's ID; thus, each fax number is correlated to the recipient's ID. These fax

numbers are presented as the personal information of the recipient (page 1, col. right,

lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56).

7.   Claims 6-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Knauerhase (US 2003/0023691 A1) in view of Donovan (US 2004/0193722) and Duarte

et al (or hereinafter "Duarte") (US 2003/0030670).

        As to claim 6, Knauerhse teaches the claimed limitations:

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, user input, the user input

comprising multiple instant messaging (IM) addresses of an individual contact" as a

single user may have many different associated communication channels through which

the user can receives messages from other users. For example, a user Rob may have

multiple e-mail addresses and multiple IM addresses, any one or more of which may be

used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210

can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different communication channels 212.

Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than

one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the

message is to be sent over. As indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure

first accepts a message, intended for a recipient. The above information shows that the

sender can choose multiple IM addresses of a recipient to route messages to the

recipient. When the sender chooses multiple IM addresses of the recipient, these

multiple IM addresses of the recipient are inputted and the routing procedure receives

the input. The recipient is represented as a contact of the sender. The sender is

represented as a user (page 1, col. Right, lines 8-22, page 3, col. Left, lines 53-54),

"the multiple IM addresses comprising IM addresses from different IM accounts"

as a single user may have many different associated communication channels through

which the user can receives messages from other users. For example, a user Rob may

have multiple e-mail addresses and multiple IM addresses, any one or more of which

may be used to route messages to Rob. In particular, a user may have accounts on two

or more different IM networks that facilitate interoperation between them e.g., a user on

IM network X can send/receive IMs to /from a user on IM network Y. Thus, user Rob's

multiple IM addresses are from different IM accounts (page 1, col. Right, lines 10-15;

page 3, col. Left lines 2-5),

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, each of the multiple

IM addresses to the reference identifier(ID)" as a user Rob may have multiple e-mail

addresses and multiple IM addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route

messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent

over any of one or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender

or the recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the

channels 212. Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to

be sent over. As indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a

message, m, intended for a recipient and parses it to identify a recipient (specified by

m.to ID). In case, when the sender can choose multiple IM addresses of a recipient to

route messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to IM addresses. Since each

message is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, each IM address is correlated to the

recipient's ID (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56),

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, a reference identifier

ID, the reference identifier (ID) being adapted to identify the individual contact" to

identify the recipient specified by m.toID. It means that the ID is used to identify the

recipient. The ID is not defined by the sender (page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56).

"an email window configured to utilize the reference identifier (ID) for lauching an

IM session with the contact from the email window" as a pop-window for receiving and

monitoring e-mail messages or an instant messages. This pop-window does not utilize

reference identifier (ID) for lauching an IM session with the contact. This pop-window is

represented as email window (paragraph [0003]).

Knauerhase does not explicitly teach the claimed limitation "each of the different

IM accounts being adapted to transmit and receive IM messages using a different IM

protocol receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, providing, by the

computing device at the sender location, configured to utilize the reference identifier (ID)

for launching an IM session with the individual contact ".

Donovan teaches in step 100 Bill issues a command to his PC 10 to establish a

connection to the Internet 12. In response, in step 102 the PC 10 activates the DUN

component 32 that attempts to connect to the SP 14 using a standard protocol such as

PPP. In order to gain access, the DUN component 32 sends the user's ID and

password to the SP 14's authorization database 42 (step 104). The authorization

database 42 checks if Bill is a current and valid user of the SP and verifies the user ID

and password. If the user ID and password are correct and Bill's account is active, the

DUN connection is verified and Bill will have access through the SP 14 (step 106). If for

any reason Bill's status is unacceptable, access to the SP 14 and, through the SP 14, to

the IM server 30 is refused (page 3, paragraph [0038-0039]). Donovan also teaches a

system that provides instant messaging (IM) on and through the Internet across various

platforms. More particular, the system allows individuals to exchange messages and

files over the Internet substantially instantaneously across multiple and different

protocols and systems. For example, Bill has an account at Yahoo that is adapted to

receive IM message using a protocol. Ted has an account at AOL that is adapted to

receive IM message using another protocol. Bill can exchange instant messages with

Ted and Rhoda, and Ted and Rhoda can exchange messages with Bill. When Bill talks

to Ted, their messages appear in the message area. The above information shows that

user accounts being adapted to forward and receive IM messages using different

protocols (figs. 1& 5, page 1, col. left, lines 5-10; page 4, col. left, lines 18-24; page 3, col. Right, lines 1-10).

Duarte teaches using user ID for lauching an IM session with the contact or user and using user ID to identify a user or contact (paragraph 0004).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Duarte's teaching of using user ID for lauching an IM session with the contact or user and using user ID to identify a user or contact and Donovan's teaching of receiving Bill's ID from Bill and providing instant messaging (IM) on and through the Internet across various platforms, allowing individuals to exchange messages and files over the Internet substantially instantaneously across multiple and different protocols and exchanging instant messages using different protocols from different user accounts to Knauerhase's system in order to provide systems and methods that allow a user to decide whether or not to participate in the requested IM session, and to provide secure access to the personal information only for the selected user or contact and further to allow individuals to engage in an instant messaging session even if the individuals are subscribers to different service providers and further to provide instant messaging between multiple IM platforms and prevent hacker to access user's account for updating or modifying user's data.

As to claim 7, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, an email address of the individual contact" as the sender must know and keep track of the recipient's

various device addresses e.g., email address and telephone number. This information

shows that the sender has received the recipient's email address (fig. 2, page 1, col.

Right, lines 22-24) and

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the email address of

the individual contact to the reference identifier (ID)" as a user Rob may have multiple e-

mail addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As

shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more

of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may

desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the

sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by

the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a

recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the

sender can choose multiple email addresses of a recipient to route messages to the

recipient, messages are correlated to email addresses. Since a message is correlated

to the recipient's ID; thus, each email address is correlated to the recipient's ID (page 1,

col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56).

As to claim 8, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, a telephone number

of the individual contact" as the sender must know and keep track of the recipient's

various device addresses e.g., email address and telephone number. This information

shows that the sender has received the recipient's email address (page 1, col. Right,

lines 22-24); and

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the telephone

number of the individual contact to the reference identifier ID" a user Rob may have

multiple telephone numbers any one or more of which may be used to route messages

to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of

one or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the

recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212.

Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As

indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m,

intended for a recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In

case, when the sender can choose multiple telephone numbers of the recipient to route

messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to these telephone numbers. Since

a message is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, each telephone number is correlated

to the recipient's ID (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56),

As to claim 9, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitation "receiving, by the

computing device at the sender location, an address of the individual contact" as the

sender must know and keep track of the recipient's various device addresses e.g., voice

email, email address, telephone number and fax numbers. This information shows that

the sender must receive addresses of the recipient (page 1, col. Right, lines 22-24); and

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the address of the

individual contact to the reference identifier ID" as a user Rob may have voice email and

email address, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As

shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more

of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may

desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the

sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by

the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a

recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the

sender can choose another email address of the recipient to route messages to the

recipient, messages are correlated to IM addresses. Since a message is correlated to

the recipient's ID; thus, another email address is correlated to the recipient's ID (page 1,

col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56),

As to claim 10, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

"receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, personal information

of the individual contact" as the sender must know and keep track of the recipient's

various device addresses e.g., email address, telephone number and fax numbers.

This information shows that the sender has received fax numbers (page 1, col. Right,

lines 22-24); and

"correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the personal

information of individual contact to the reference identifier ID" a user Rob may have

multiple e-mail addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the sender can choose pager numbers of a recipient to route messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to pager numbers. Since a message is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, each IM address is correlated to the recipient's ID. These pager numbers are presented as the personal information of the recipient (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56),

As to claim 11, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

"first receive logic, processed by the computing device at the sender location, the first receive logic configured to receive first user input, the first user input comprising multiple instant messaging (IM) addresses of an individual contact" as a software is configured to receive a sender select multiple IM addresses of a recipient to route messages to the recipient .The recipient is represented as a contact of the sender. The sender is represented as a user (page 1, col. Right, lines 8-22, lines 55-61; page 2, col. Left, lines 1-3),

"the multiple IM addresses comprising IM addresses from different IM accounts" as a single user may have many different associated communication channels through which the user can receives messages from other users. For example, a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses and multiple IM addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. In particular, a user may have accounts on two or more different IM networks that facilitate interoperation between them e.g., a user on IM network X can send/receive IMs to /from a user on IM network Y. Thus, user Rob's multiple IM addresses can be from different IM accounts (page 1, col. Right, lines 10-15; page 3, lines 2-5),

"correlate logic, processed by the computing device at the sender location, and configured to correlate each of the multiple IM addresses to a reference identifier (ID)" as a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses and multiple IM addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the sender can choose multiple IM addresses of a recipient to route messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to IM addresses. Since a message is correlated to the

recipient's ID; thus, each IM address is correlated to the recipient's ID (page 1, col.

right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56),

"the reference identifier (ID) being adapted to identify the contact" as specifying

m.to ID to identify the recipient. It means that the ID is used to identify the recipient.

The ID is defined by the sender (page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56);

"the email window logic configured to provide an email window configured to

utilize the reference identifier (ID) for launching an IM session with the individual contact

from the email window" as a pop-window for receiving and monitoring e-mail messages

or an instant messages. This pop-window does not utilize reference identifier (ID) for

lauching an IM session with the contact. This pop-window is represented as email

window (paragraph [0003]).

Knauerhase does not explicitly teach the claimed limitation "correlate logic,

processed by the computing device at the sender location, and the second receive logic

configured to receive second user input, the second user input comprising a reference

identifier (ID), each of the different IM accounts being adapted to transmit and receive

IM messages using a different IM protocol, email window logic, processed by the

computing device at the sender location, configured to provide an email window

configured to utilize the reference identifier (ID) for launching an IM session with the

individual contact".

Donovan teaches in step 100 Bill issues a command to his PC 10 to establish a

connection to the Internet 12. In response, in step 102 the PC 10 activates the DUN

component 32 that attempts to connect to the SP 14 using a standard protocol such as

PPP. In order to gain access, the DUN component 32 sends the user's ID and

password to the SP 14's authorization database 42 (step 104). The authorization

database 42 checks if Bill is a current and valid user of the SP and verifies the user ID

and password. If the user ID and password are correct and Bill's account is active, the

DUN connection is verified and Bill will have access through the SP 14 (step 106). If for

any reason Bill's status is unacceptable, access to the SP 14 and, through the SP 14, to

the IM server 30 is refused (page 3, paragraph [0038-0039]).

In addition, Donovan teaches a system that provides instant messaging (IM) on

and through the Internet across various platforms. More particular, the system allows

individuals to exchange messages and files over the Internet substantially

instantaneously across multiple and different protocols and systems. For example, Bill

has an account at Yahoo that is adapted to receive IM message using a protocol. Ted

has an account at AOL that is adapted to receive IM message using another protocol.

Bill can exchange instant messages with Ted and Rhoda, and Ted and Rhoda can

exchange messages with Bill. When Bill talks to Ted, their messages appear in the

message area. The above information shows that user accounts being adapted to

forward and receive IM messages using different protocols (figs. 1& 5, page 1, col. left,

lines 5-10; page 4, col. left, lines 18-24; page 3, col. Right, lines 1-10).

Duarte teaches using user ID for lauching an IM session with the contact or user

and using user ID to identify a user or contact (paragraph 0004).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to apply Duarte's teaching of using user ID for lauching an IM

session with the contact or user and using user ID to identify a user or contact and

Donovan's teaching of receiving Bill's ID from Bill and providing instant messaging (IM)

on and through the Internet across various platforms, allowing individuals to exchange

messages and files over the Internet substantially instantaneously across multiple and

different protocols and exchanging instant messages using different protocols from

different user accounts to Knauerhase's system in order to provide systems and

methods that allow a user to decide whether or not to participate in the requested IM

session, and to provide secure access to the personal information only for the selected

user or contact and further to allow individuals to engage in an instant messaging

session even if the individuals are subscribers to different service providers and further

to provide instant messaging between multiple IM platforms and prevent hacker to

access user's account for updating or modifying user's data.

As to claim 12, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

"receive logic, processed by the computing device at the sender location and

configured to receive an email address of the individual contact" as a user Rob may

have multiple e-mail addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route

messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent

over any of one or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender

or the recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the

channels 212. Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to

be sent over. As indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a

message, m, intended for a recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by

m.to ID). The above information shows the system thãt has included a software to allow

the sender to receive multiple email addresses of the recipient (page 1, col. right, lines

8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56); and

"correlate logic, processed by the computing device at the sender location, the

correlate logic configured to correlate the email address of the individual contact to the

reference identifier ID" as a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses, any one or

more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message

200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different

communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the

message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender

chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by the

pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a recipient

and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the sender

can choose multiple email addresses of a recipient to route messages to the recipient,

messages are correlated to email addresses. Since a message is correlated to the

recipient's ID; thus, each email address is correlated to the recipient's ID (page 1, col.

right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56).

As to claim 13, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

" means for receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, an email

address of the individual contact" as the sender must know and keep track of the

recipient's various device addresses e.g., email address and telephone number. This

information has received that the sender must receive the recipient's email address

(page 1, col. Right, lines 22-24) and

"means for correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the email

address of the individual contact to the reference identifier (ID)" as a user Rob may

have multiple e-mail addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route

messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent

over any of one or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender

or the recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the

channels 212. Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to

be sent over. As indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a

message, m, intended for a recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by

m.to ID). In case, when the sender can choose multiple email addresses of a recipient

to route messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to email addresses. Since

a message is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, each email address is correlated to

the recipient's ID (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56).

As to claim 14, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

" receive logic, processed by the computing device at the sender location, and

configured to receive a telephone number of the individual contact" as the sender must

know and keep track of the recipient's various device addresses e.g., email address and

telephone number. This information shows that the sender has received the recipient's

telephone number (page 1, col. Right, lines 22-24); and

"correlate logic, processed by the computing device at the sender location, and

the correlate logic configured to correlate the telephone number of the individual contact

to the reference identifier (ID)" as a user Rob may have multiple telephone number any

one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a

message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different

communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the

message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender

chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by the

pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a recipient

and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the sender

can choose multiple telephone numbers of the recipient to route messages to the

recipient, messages are correlated to IM addresses. Since a message is correlated to

the recipient's ID; thus, each telephone number is correlated to the recipient's ID (page

1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56).

As to claim 15, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

"means for receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, a

telephone number of the individual contact" as the sender must know and keep track of

the recipient's various device addresses e.g., email address and telephone number.

This information shows that the sender must receive the recipient's email address (page 1, col. Right, lines 22-24); and

"means for correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the telephone number of the individual contact to the reference identifier ID" as a user Rob may have multiple telephone number any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the sender can choose multiple telephone numbers of the recipient to route messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to IM addresses. Since a message is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, each telephone number is correlated to the recipient's ID (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56).

As to claim 16, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations

"receive logic, processed by the computing device at the sender location, configured to receive an address of the individual contact" as the sender must know and keep track of the recipient's various device addresses e.g., voice email, email address,

telephone number and fax numbers. This information shows that the sender must

receive addresses of the recipient (page 1, col. Right, lines 22-24); and

"correlating logic, processed by the computing device at the sender location, the

correlate logic configured to correlate the address of individual contact to the reference

identifier ID" as a user Rob may have voice email and email addresses, any one or

more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message

200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different

communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the

message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender

chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by the

pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a recipient

and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the sender

can choose another email address of the recipient to route messages to the recipient,

messages are correlated to IM addresses. Since a message is correlated to the

recipient's ID; thus, another email address is correlated to the recipient's ID (page 1,

col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56).

As to claim 17, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations

"means for receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, an address

of the individual contact" as the sender must know and keep track of the recipient's

various device addresses e.g., voice email, email address, telephone number and fax

numbers. This information shows that the sender must receive addresses of the

recipient (page 1, col. Right, lines 22-24); and

"means for correlating, by the computing device at the sender location, the

address of the individual contact to the reference identifier (ID)" as a user Rob may

have voice email and email address, any one or more of which may be used to route

messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent

over any of one or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender

or the recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the

channels 212. Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to

be sent over. As indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a

message, m, intended for a recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by

m.to ID). In case, when the sender can choose another email address of the recipient

to route messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to IM addresses. Since a

message is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, another email address is correlated to

the recipient's ID (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56).

As to claim 18, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

"receive logic, processed by the computing device at the sender location,

configured to receive personal information of the individual contact" as the sender must

know and keep track of the recipient's various device addresses e.g., email address,

telephone number and fax numbers. This information shows that the sender has

received addresses of the recipient (page 1, col. Right, lines 22-24); and

"correlate logic, processed by the computing device at the sender location, configured to correlate the personal information of individual contact to the reference identifier ID" as a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses, any one or more of which may be used to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can be sent over any of one or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the sender or the recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the channels 212. Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to be sent over. As indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a message, m, intended for a recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by m.to ID). In case, when the sender can choose pager numbers of a recipient to route messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to pager numbers. Since a message is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, each IM address is correlated to the recipient's ID. These pager numbers are presented as the personal information of the recipient (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56).

As to claim 19, Knauerhase teaches the claimed limitations:

"means for receiving, by the computing device at the sender location, personal information of the individual contact" as the sender must know and keep track of the recipient's various device addresses e.g., email address, telephone number and fax numbers. This information shows that the sender has received addresses of the recipient (page 1, col. Right, lines 22-24); and

"means for correlating, processed by the computing device at the sender

location, the personal information of individual contact to the reference identifier (ID)" as

a user Rob may have multiple e-mail addresses, any one or more of which may be used

to route messages to Rob. As shown in fig. 2, a message 200 for a recipient 210 can

be sent over any of one or more of 13 different communication channels 212. Either the

sender or the recipient may desire that the message be sent over more than one of the

channels 212. Typically, the sender chooses which of the channels the message is to

be sent over. As indicated by the pseudo-code, the routing procedure first accepts a

message, m, intended for a recipient and parses it to identify the recipient (specified by

m.to ID). In case, when the sender can choose pager numbers of a recipient to route

messages to the recipient, messages are correlated to pager numbers. Since a

message is correlated to the recipient's ID; thus, each IM address is correlated to the

recipient's ID. These pager numbers are presented as the personal information of the

recipient (page 1, col. right, lines 8-22; page 3, col. Right, lines 55-56).

Conclusion

8.   **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension

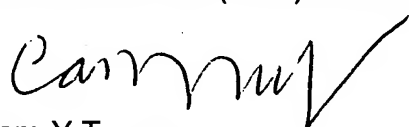of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Contact Information

9.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cam Y T Truong whose telephone number is (571) 272-4042. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Firday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene can be reached on (571) 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Cam-Y Truong
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2162
3/20/2007